
By: **Delegates Cane, Bozman, G. Clagett, Conway, and Heller**

Rules suspended

Introduced and read first time: March 15, 2004

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment - Well Permit Fees - Removal of Cap**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the cap on certain well permit fees that a county board of
4 health may establish to defray certain expenses in inspecting and testing wells;
5 and generally relating to well permit fees.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article - Environment
8 Section 9-1307
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (1996 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

11 **Preamble**

12 WHEREAS, Local health departments across Maryland are responsible for the
13 inspection and testing of residential and commercial wells; and

14 WHEREAS, The inspection and testing of wells is essential to the protection of
15 the public health of the community; and

16 WHEREAS, The current well permit fee cap of \$80 per well has been in effect
17 since 1984 and does not cover the expenses incurred by local health departments in
18 performing the work necessary to insure the protection of public health; now,
19 therefore,

20 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
21 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

22 **Article - Environment**

23 9-1307.

24 (a) In applying for a permit to drill a well, the well driller shall give the
25 Department any information the Department requires.

1 (b) As a condition to issuing a permit to drill a well, the Department may
2 require that samples of the materials encountered in drilling the well be preserved
3 and submitted to the Department.

4 (c) A county board of health may establish a permit fee to defray county
5 expenses in inspecting and testing wells. The fee may be charged before a permit
6 required under § 9-1306 of this subtitle is issued. The fee may not exceed [~~\$80~~] \$180
7 per well or [~~\$80~~] \$180 per cluster of wells to be used exclusively to transfer heat to or
8 from the ground or groundwater. A permit shall be valid for a period of 12 months
9 from the date of issuance by the approved delegated permitting authority.

10 (d) A county board of health may waive a fee for a well that is drilled to replace
11 a well not in conformity with the regulations adopted under § 9-1305 of this subtitle.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
13 July 1, 2004.